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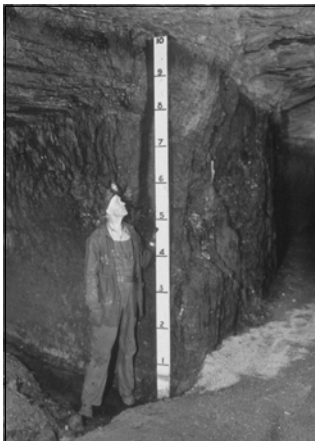
VIRGINIA STATE
HISTORICAL RECORDS
ADVISORY BOARD



*Working to preserve
Virginia's documentary heritage*



All images from the collections of the Library of Virginia: the Sunken Garden at the College of William and Mary, ca. 1935, from the Charles F. Gillette papers (above); schoolchildren pose at St. George's School in Norfolk for photographer Harry C. Mann, n.d. (front cover); and a ten-foot seam of coal photographed for the 1939 World's Fair (interior).



PRESERVING VIRGINIA'S HISTORY

The State Historical Records Advisory Board (SHRAB) works to preserve Virginia's irreplaceable documentary heritage. Letters, photographs, diaries, and court records, among other materials, tell the stories of the past.

SHRAB works with record keepers throughout Virginia—at local historical societies, archival institutions, museums, and other organizations—to save endangered records, preserve them, and make them available to all researchers. Ultimately, these records help illuminate the history of the commonwealth and the nation.

The board is the central advisory body for historical records planning in Virginia. It promotes practices that ensure preservation of and access to the commonwealth's public and private historical records. Under the direction of the state archivist, it publishes and sponsors surveys of conditions and needs of historical records in the state, reviews records and grant proposals by institutions in the state, and makes recommendations to the National Historical Publications and Records Commission (NHPRC).

PRESERVATION

SHRAB promotes an understanding of the importance of Virginia's historical records and works to ensure their preservation. The board encourages adherence to archival and records management principles through meetings and workshops.

SHRAB encourages the management of public and private records. The board surveys repositories, supports the Library of Virginia's records management program,

and promotes the sharing of collection information. SHRAB encourages the preservation of private records, especially those records for which there is no centralized repository (such as business records).

SHRAB solicits, develops, and reviews proposals for NHPRC grant projects.

SHRAB fosters the development of electronic records systems and disaster plans, thereby insuring the preservation of historically valuable information.

ACCESS

SHRAB promotes access to records consistent with the public interest, right to access, and privacy protection law.

SHRAB fosters cooperative networks among repositories dealing with historical records.

EDUCATION

SHRAB encourages the professional development of archivists, curators, volunteers, and others dedicated to the task of caring for Virginia's documentary heritage.

SHRAB sheds light on the value of historical records in the commonwealth through presentations, publications, workshops, and other outreach activities.

RECENT VIRGINIA GRANTS

2004—Virginia Commonwealth University, Richmond: \$160,700 for the Archives of the New Dominion, to work with the African American, women's activist, gay and lesbian, and Hispanic communities to determine the historical value of their work and to encourage them to make their documentary history available to repositories.

2003—City of Petersburg: \$8,094 to duplicate nitrate negatives made by commercial photographer William E. Lum, Jr., that document the

history of Petersburg and the surrounding community from 1925 to 1952.

2003—The Library of Virginia, Richmond: \$38,909 to support the restoration of selected sound recordings generated by WRVA Radio and the creation of compact disks of this material for reference purposes.

2000—University of Virginia, Charlottesville: \$43,500 to fund an NHPRC archival administration fellowship in the Special Collections Department of the University of Virginia Library.

1998—National Association of Alcoholism and Drug Abuse Counselors Education and Research Foundation, Arlington: \$15,650 for a project to develop an archives and records management program.

1996—Virginia State Historical Records Advisory Board, Richmond: \$50,000 to provide training throughout the commonwealth in disaster preparedness.

OTHER SOURCES OF GRANT SUPPORT

Institute of Museum and Library Services (www.imls.gov)

National Historical Publications and Records Commission (www.archives.gov)

Virginia Foundation for the Humanities and Public Policy (www.virginia.edu/vfh)

Virginia Genealogical Society (www.vgs.org)

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Visit the Library of Virginia's Web site at www.lva.lib.va.us for additional information about the Virginia State Historical Records Advisory Board, including the board's strategic plan. Meetings of the board are open to the public.